

HOPE CLUB

The Community of Kasapa in Lubumbashi, like many low-income communities, has a large population of orphans, abandoned children, widows and families who are dealing with AIDS. Hope Club for Children is a local organization which has been working to identify and help individuals in this community with the goal of uniting abandoned children or orphans with a family member who will care for them. Hope Club then works with these individuals to find some type of work which will provide sufficient income. They also work to help widows become self-sufficient and to learn to manage their meager income.

Hope Club received a \$3,000 grant from the Ambassador's Special Self Help Fund to assist fifty widows with children and fifty orphans. Many of the widows have no formal education and their best option to become self-sufficient is gardening. The organization used the funding to purchase gardening tools and seed for the widows. In addition, the funding covered one year of school tuition for the children of these widows as well as the orphans. The sale of garden produce will pay for school fees next year and provide a small income for the individuals in years to come.



